



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 ID-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00

CODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 NIC-01 RSR-01

/157 W

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R 171350Z AUG 73  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2908  
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/ME

REVIEWED BY

DATE

CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 4779

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, TS, AF  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL  
DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

RECENT

1. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING MIDDLE EAST. PERSIAN GULF AND  
LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN UNITY (SEE SEPTELS),

EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RECENT  
DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN.

2. IF WE HAD ANY UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION  
CONCERNING RECENT COUP IN AFGHANISTAN. HE NOTED THAT ACCORDING  
TO HIS INFORMATION IT APPEARED THAT COUP WAS MOTIVATED  
PRIMARILY BY INTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS ALTHOUGH NEW REGIME  
APPEARED TO "FAVOR" THE SOVIETS. IRAN, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN  
EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT. I  
INDICATED THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE IT APPEARED THAT COUP  
WAS CAUSED BY INTERNAL PRESSURES.  
AT SAME TIME I WAS AWARE OF REPORTS OF COUP LEADER DAUD'S  
PRO-SOVIET BIAS. IN ANY EVENT, USG IS RESERVING ITS OPINION

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WHILE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY.

3.        THIS WAS CORRECT WAY TO PROCEED IN VIEW OF PAUCITY OF INFORMATION COMING OUT OF AFGHANISTAN AT THIS TIME. HE CONTINUED THAT IF ONE WERE TO JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS ABOUT POSSIBLE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT, THIS MIGHT UNWITTINGLY HELP THE SOVIETS BY CHARACTERIZING NEW REGIME AS PRO-SOVIET WHEN IT ACTUALLY IS NOT.

B/c 3

B4 3/5

       THIS IS A SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT, ONE WHICH IS DISQUIETING SMALLER STATES WHICH HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED TO USG AND FREE WORLD FOR SUPPORT.  
SEELYE

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